

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

June 7, 1999

Department of Health and Human Services
State of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

RE: AC# 3-PPH-J7 - Pepper Hill Nursing Center, Inc.

We have performed the procedures described below, which were agreed to by the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, solely to compute the rate change and related adjusted reimbursement rate to be used by the Department in determining the reimbursement settlement with Pepper Hill Nursing Center, Inc., for the contract periods beginning October 1, 1998 and for the twelve month cost report period ended September 30, 1997. This engagement to apply agreed-upon procedures was performed in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the Department of Health and Human Services. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

1. We tested selected costs or areas based on our analytical procedures applied to the reimbursable Medicaid program costs as shown on the Financial and Statistical Report for Nursing Homes, as filed by Pepper Hill Nursing Center, Inc., to determine if these costs were allowable as defined by the State Plan for Medicaid reimbursement purposes and supported by accounting and statistical records maintained by the provider. We found no exceptions as a result of these procedures.
2. We considered the results of our testing and determined that there was no effect on the provider's interim Medicaid reimbursement rates as listed below.

<u>CONTRACT PERIODS</u>	<u>INTERIM MEDICAID RATE</u>
October 1, 1998 - November 30, 1998	\$88.90
Beginning December 1, 1998	\$89.65

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The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has not received formal approval from the United States Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) of Attachment 4.19D of the South Carolina State Plan under Title XIX (Medicaid) for the contract periods beginning October 1, 1998, as required by regulations of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The effects of any adjustments that may be necessary if the State Plan, as submitted, is modified to receive the approval of HCFA cannot presently be determined.

We were not engaged to, and did not, perform an audit, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the specified elements, accounts, or items. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified party.

Thomas L. Wagner, Jr., CPA
State Auditor

TLWjr/sj

cc: Ms. Brenda L. Hyleman
Mr. Jeff Saxon
Mr. Mac Carroll